

UNINTENTIONAL RADIOLOGICAL SUBSTANCE RELEASE



An Unintentional Radiological Substance Release hazard occurs when radiation is accidentally discharged into the environment. Unintentional Radiological Substance Release may occur as the result of a nuclear power plant accident, a transportation accident, or a workplace incident involving radioactive materials.

HAS IT HAPPENED LOCALLY?

There have been zero Unintentional Radiological Substance Release hazard events in Howard County during the reviewed time period (1996-2013).

WHAT IS THE ONGOING RISK?

There is an expected <1-10% Annual Likelihood of an Unintentional Radiological Substance Release hazard in Howard County. In the most likely Unintentional Radiological Substance Release hazard scenario, the Total Impact is considered Limited. In the worst-case scenario, the Total Impact is considered Critical.

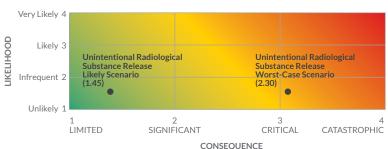
DID YOU KNOW?

- Workplace radiation incidents may occur in health care facilities, research institutions, and industrial operations if radiation sources are not stored correctly, safety controls malfunction, or safety procedures are not followed.
- Following a small release of radiological substances, it can take up to 12 hours to remove the hazard and decontaminate the environment.
- Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station in southern Pennsylvania and Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant in Calvert County are both close enough to impact Howard County in the event of a catastrophic failure.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- Howard County Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment readyhoco.com/hazards
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention emergency.cdc.gov/radiation/
- Environmental Protection Agency epa.gov/radiation

RISK MATRIX



LOCAL RISK OVERVIEW		
Future Likelihood	Unlikely-Infrequent <1-10% chance of annual occurrence	
Impact	MOST-LIKELY	WORST-CASE
	Limited	Critical
Risk Score	1.45	2.30
Risk Ranking (High to Low)	Ranked #15 of 16 man-made hazards.	

UNINTENTIONAL RADIOLOGICAL SUBSTANCE RELEASE IMPACT

